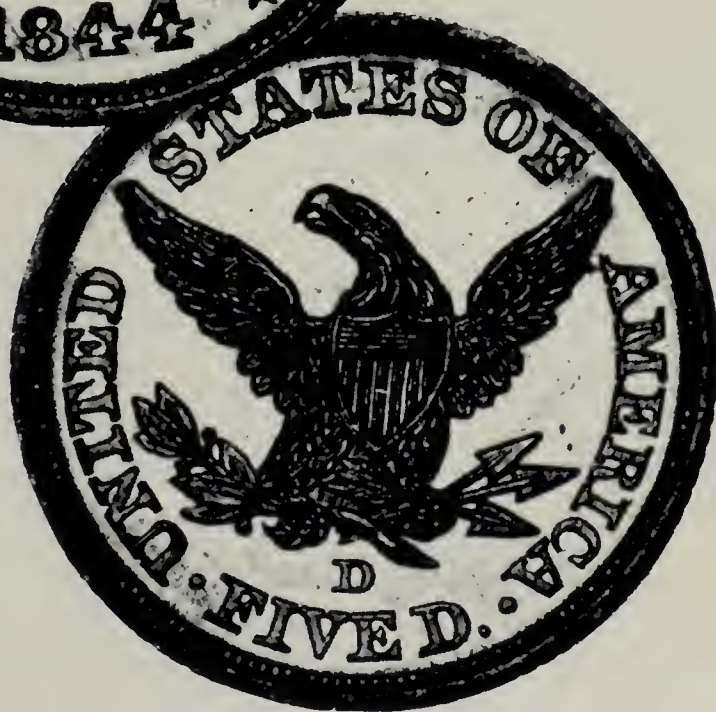


Quarterly Journal of the
Central States Numismatic Society



Winter 1988-89
Volume 36, Number 4

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Official Publication/Central States Numismatic Society

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VOL. 36, NO. 4

WINTER, 1988-89

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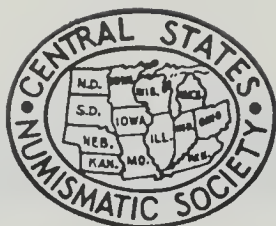
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Send:

Changes of address to: The Secretary

Articles for *The Centinel* to: The Editor

Advertising inquiries and copy to: The Advertising Manager

A Message From The Secretary

Robert E. "Bob" Douglas



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all! I hope the new year will bring happiness and prosperity to you all. May your numismatic goals all be realized.

I am writing this message before the holidays and I realize that this message will be received after Christmas, but the timing of *The Centinel* prevents a pre-Christmas greeting, and does not alter my good wishes at all.

We had a very nice convention in Dayton, Ohio, in November. Ron Crouch did a fine job putting on the Fall convention. There were a good number of fine exhibits, a good educational program, and approximately 150 dealers at the convention. The attendance was not the greatest we have ever seen, but was still the enthusiastic collectors we like to see. A very nice reception was sponsored by *Numismatic News* on Thursday evening for the dealers, and that turned out to be a highlight of the convention. A member of the Dayton City Council presented a proclamation from the Mayor declaring the convention dates as Cen-

tral States Numismatic Society Coin Hobby Days.

The exhibitors were recognized at a CSNS Board breakfast. It was fun to talk to these people, as they were a very enthusiastic group of collectors.

The Board was busy at the convention, meeting on Thursday afternoon, Friday morning, and again Saturday morning. A record was set by the Board — we finished all our business Saturday morning. Sunday's breakfast was therefore only a social affair. This left us free to be at the bourse area and educational programs on Friday and Saturday afternoons and all day Sunday. For the first time we could talk to our friends, old and new, and participate in all the convention activities.

Among the items of business at the Board meeting, a Fall convention has been approved for 1991 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and a Spring convention for 1994 in Indianapolis, Indiana. From three very competitive bids, we accepted a bid from Kurt Krueger for auction rights for the years 1990 through 1994 at our Spring conventions. Rich Hartzog announced that we will have Leon Hendrickson produce and help distribute the CSNS 50th Anniversary medals. Order information and prices will be announced shortly (if not elsewhere in this issue). The Arkansas State organization sent a letter expressing the desire to become the 14th state in the CSNS. Because the Board wished to study the proposal further and study additional possibilities, the proposal was tabled.

Ralph Hardman presented his plans for the CSNS 50th Anniversary Convention in Overland Park, Kansas, on April 24-28, 1989. He has a good convention lined up for all of us, so make

arrangements to attend now. The Mariott Hotel will be the convention hotel, just five blocks from the convention center with shuttle busses running all day. Also close to the Mariott are the Clubhouse Inn, Best Western, Embassy Suites, Drury Inn, and Red Roof Inn. Overland Park is located on the southeast edge of Kansas City, Missouri. Please note, the airport is located on the northwest edge of Kansas City, so if flying, plan on shuttle buses rather than cabs if possible.

New members will now receive their membership cards very shortly after sending me their membership applications. The Board has approved the use of the letter "A" following the letter "R" or "J" before the membership number ("R" is for regular member, "J" is for junior member). The letter "A" is for applicant. The number RA1234 then indicates regular member 1234 applicant. Using the letter "A" will allow me to issue a card upon receipt of an application instead of issuing the card 30 days after the applicant's name appears in *The Centinel*. On occasion, this took up to four to five months after sending the membership application. The applicant's name must still appear in *The Centinel*, and if no objections to membership are received within 30 days, membership is approved. When the member pays his/her dues the next time, the letter "A" will be dropped from the membership number (R1234) on their new membership card.

I send a membership application with every membership card when you pay your dues or with all new membership cards. Just think, if everyone would sign up a new member with that application, our membership would double. Sign up a friend at your next coin club meeting! Membership dues are still a bargain at \$5.00 per year. If you are thinking about a Life

membership, send your \$100.00 and do away with wondering if your membership is paid up. Our membership year starts March 1, so now is the time to think of next year's (1989) dues.

A new era of my life is about to take place. As of January 6, 1989, I will retire from Rockwell Collins as a technical writer. I will now be able to devote the time to CSNS as it should be done — right away, instead of after work and/or, if too tired, on the weekends. After January 6, 1989, I may be contacted at (319) 364-0706 at my home address of 58 Devonwood Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404. I plan to spend mornings taking care of the CSNS business, afternoons woodworking, honey-do's, fishing (in season), and camping. I have promised Marilyn there will be no weekends for CSNS except for conventions. We can now spend the weekends for ourselves. Around convention and membership dues time (February - May), I will spend more time for CSNS business (as required) so that in the summer I can take care of fishing and camping for longer periods.

Please let me know if there is an error in your name or address on membership cards on your *Centinel* address. I cannot always interpret the writing on some new member applications and have had to guess. It will also help the post office deliver your copies of *The Centinel*. When sending membership dues, *please* identify yourself by your name (not a company name) and membership number, because all checks do not give me your name and on occasion I cannot read the signature on the check!

See you in Overland Park, Kansas!

Robert E. "Bob" Douglas
Secretary/Treasurer, CSNS
58 Devonwood Ave SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

Moving? Don't forget to notify the Secretary of your new address!

Presidential Commentary

Michael Kolman

Our second Fall Convention, held this past November in Dayton, Ohio, was a highly successful event. The addition of a third day to the public bourse hours and the sale of roughly 50 additional dealer tables resulted in a coin show that was both very active and quite well attended. The newly expanded and refurbished Dayton Convention Center is certainly a superior facility and the skywalk connection between our headquarters hotel, the Stouffer's, and the Convention Center itself was well received, especially in view of the generally rainy weather we experienced in Dayton.

One innovation this year was the dealer reception held after our Thursday setup and generously sponsored by Krause Publications. All who attended had a very enjoyable evening. There was lots of good food, fun and numismatic fellowship. The Iola, Wisconsin based numismatic publishing company has a long record of support for numismatic organizations and their sponsorship of the dealer reception is yet another example of their generosity.

The Dayton - Kettering Coin Club organized a small, but very high quality exhibit area, and Bob Hendershott and Jay Kline rounded out the educational aspects of the convention with their very interesting talks about the hobby. Jay, an authority on Standing Liberty Quarters, gave a fascinating talk about that area, while Bob, who is 91, but has vitality and energy that would be the envy of many half his age, delivered a program of memories and reminiscences of the many acquaintances and experiences he's had in numismatics over the years of his involvement.

On the business side of the ledger, the Board spent a number of very

productive working sessions. Perhaps our most important decision was the awarding of future auction rights to conduct sales at upcoming conventions. Three firms submitted serious proposals and all were quite competitive. Kurt R. Krueger, Iola, Wisconsin, has been designated as the awardee and will hold the rights to conduct the official convention auctions for both our Spring and Fall conventions for the period 1990-94. Kurt's firm has issued some lovely catalogs in the past and we'll look forward to working with him. Kurt's auction credits include sales conducted for the American Numismatic Association, the Numismatists of Wisconsin, the Florida United Numismatists and the Michigan Numismatic Society. Kurt has also held sales for the Garden State Numismatic Association, as well as a number of independent sales, and we know he'll produce the type of broadly based high quality auctions our members anticipate.

Ralph Hardman, who will be in charge of our Spring Convention in Overland Park, Kansas, reported to the Board on the arrangements for that event. The groundwork is in place for what should prove to be a well organized and active convention there, and I'm really looking forward to our gathering. This issue of *The Centinel* contains hotel reservation forms. I urge you all to send the form to the hotel as soon as possible, as it's no fun to be hunting for a room at the last minute. A little organization will make a much more relaxing and enjoyable convention for you — so get that reservation form back to the hotel.

As far as future conventions are concerned, the Board has awarded our 1991 Fall Convention to Fort Wayne, Indiana. Our Spring Conventions in Indianapolis have always been well

managed affairs and since some of the same people will be working on the Fort Wayne conclave, I know we'll be in good hands. We should have the specific dates available for announcement in the next *Centinel*.

Rose and I hope you all had a festive and happy holiday season and we'll both look forward to seeing as many of you as we can in Overland Park, Kansas this coming April.

Michael Kolman, President

To place advertising in *The Centinel*, contact the Advertising Manager, Cindy Rademacher, Joe Jones Agency, P. O. Box 337, Iola, WI 54945 — Phone (715) 445-5000.

FUTURE CSNS CONVENTIONS

Attention, convention sponsors. Would your organization like to consider hosting a Central States Numismatic Society Convention? At the November 18-20, 1988 Convention, the Board of Governors will entertain proposals from potential hosts for the 1994 Spring Convention and the 1991 and 1992 Fall Conventions. For details and assistance in formulating your invitation, contact the Convention Coordinator:

Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201

1988 — November 18 - 20 **Dayton, Ohio**

Bourse: Ron Crouch, 188 Lynnhaven Drive, Dayton, OH 45431

1989 — April 20 - 23 **Overland Park Kansas**

Ralph Hardman, Jr. (Suburb of Kansas City, MO)

7304 West 102nd Street, Overland Park, KS 66211

1989 — September 8 - 10 **Battle Creek, Michigan**

Bourse: Al Bobrofsky, P. O. Box 1157, Battle Creek, MI 49016

1990 — April 5 - 8 **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

Bourse: Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201

1990 — October 18 - 20 **Louisville, Kentucky**

Bourse: Robert Bickett, 3536 Winchester Road, Louisville, KY 40207

1991 — May 9 - 12 **St. Louis, Missouri**

Ron Horstman, P. O. Box 6011, St. Louis, MO 63149

1991 — Dates to be announced. **Ft. Wayne, Indiana**

1992 — Dates to be announced. **Minneapolis, Minnesota**

1993 — May 13 - 16 **Chicago, Illinois**

1994 — Dates to be announced. **Indianapolis, Indiana**

1995 — April 27 - 30 **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

Fall Convention Held In Dayton

The Second Fall Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society was held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 18-20, 1988, at the Dayton, Ohio, Convention Center. An active setup and closed bourse restricted to table holders at the convention was held on Thursday the 17th, which also saw a 150 attendee reception for tabled dealers hosted by Krause Publications, of Iola, Wisconsin.

In addition to expanding from a two- to a three-day bourse, the Second Fall Convention also had a bourse area nearly 50 tables larger than the premier edition of the same event the year earlier in Omaha.

The convention marked the first time an official Central States Numismatic Society event had been held in Dayton since 1948, when the Spring Anniversary Convention was hosted by the Dayton Coin Club and the Ohio State Numismatic Society. This year's Fall Convention was hosted and managed by Ron Crouch, marking the first time a Society event has been professionally managed.



Secretary-Treasurer Bob Douglas (left) discusses Society business in Dayton with Immediate Past President Leon Hendrickson.

In addition to the 139 booth bourse area, the conclave featured an exhibit area organized by the Dayton - Kettering Coin Club. Non-competitive exhibits by John and Nancy Wilson featured a display of *Blaine Depression Scrip* and the *Diamond Back \$20 Silver Certificates*

In the competitive exhibit category the Best of Show Award was taken by Keith Klopferstein for his *Error Cud Display*. Charles J. Rekow earned Second for his *Victory Talers Commemering the German Victory in the Franco-Prussian War*, while Third was captured by David L. Shultz with his exhibit of *United States Error Coins*. Ed Valentine showed *Love Tokens*; June Blocker *Foreign Coins with Animals* and *Greenville, Ohio Tokens*; while Keith Blocker displayed *United States Error Currency* and Terry Akers shared his *Civil War Tokens of Dayton*.

Official attendance for the three day convention was 1,297. The 1991 edition of the Central States Numismatic Society's Fall Convention will be held in Battle Creek, Michigan, September 8-9-10. Al Bobrofsky will serve as General Chairman.



CSNS Convention Coordinator Marjorie Owen-Hendershott is shown at the Dayton Fall Convention with husband Bob (center) and Convention General Chairman Ron Crouch.



Earl Armstrong, of Angola, Indiana, was one of the more familiar faces to attend the Dayton event.

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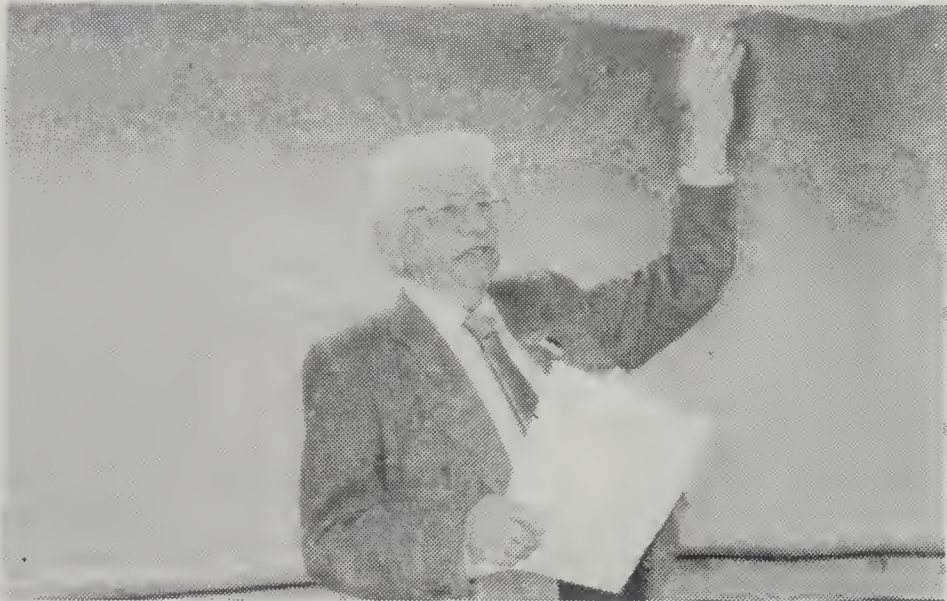
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Paul Puckett, from Spokane, Washington, was one of the 139 dealers set up in the bourse in Dayton.



Ninety one year old Bob Hendershott makes a point during his educational program Down Memory Lane In Numismatics, which was part of the Saturday afternoon educational program in Dayton.



ADVERTISING RATES

Beginning with the SPRING, 1988, Issue, rates will be as follows:

	One Issue	Four Issue Contract
Eighth Page	\$15.00	\$ 50.00
Quarter Page	25.00	80.00
Half Page	40.00	130.00
Full Page	70.00	240.00

Deadline for copy will be February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.

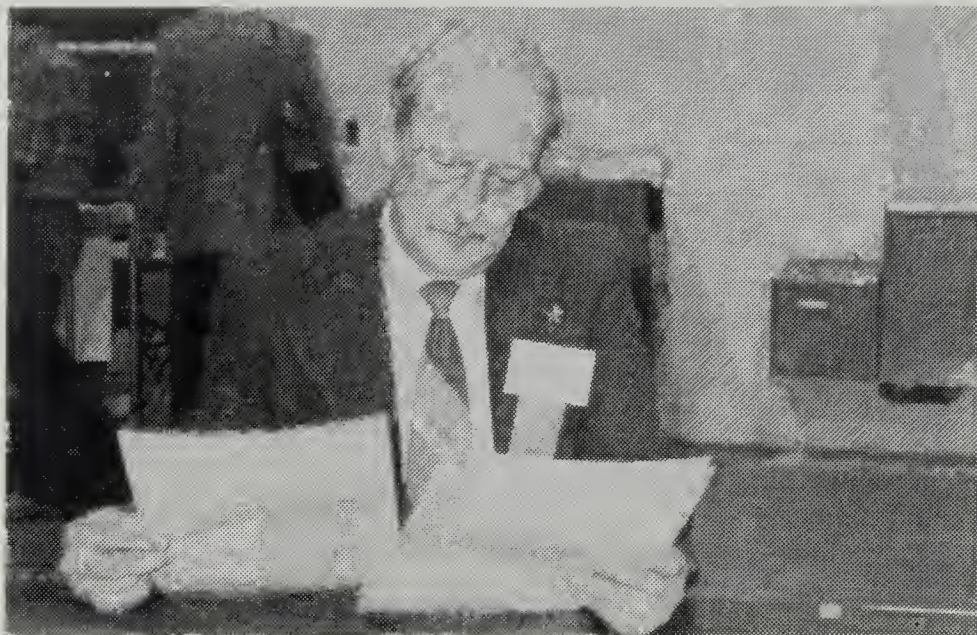


Exhibit Chairman Charles Rekow checks over his layout plans for exhibitors at the Dayton Convention.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The persons named below have applied for membership in the Society. Each applicant will become a member in 30 days, unless a written objection to his or her application is received by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to that date.

REGULAR AND JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

RA5536	George Cores	River Grove, Illinois
RA5537	Laura Nichols	Vinland, New Jersey
RA5538	Ernest Hutchison III	Vinland, New Jersey
RA5539	Fredric Scharlott	Mayfield, Ohio
RA5540	Jeff Kelley	Columbus, Ohio
RA5541	Susan Kelley	Columbus, Ohio
RA5542	Stephen P. Abernathy	Columbia, Missouri
RA5543	Sidney J. Williams	Tampa, Florida
RA5544	Edward W. Walter	Tampa, Florida
RA5545	Robert A. Walter	Tampa, Florida
RA5546	Terry Fuchek	Tampa, Florida
RA5547	Robbie Morrow	Tampa, Florida
RA5548	Gregory K. Kilby	Brookfield, Wisconsin
RA5549	Robert E. O'Donnell	Kansas City, Missouri
RA5550	David M. Starks	Belton, Missouri
RA5551	Byron Bartsow	Centerville, Ohio
RA5552	Vivian Barstow	Centerville, Ohio
RA5553	Shari Cervay	West Carrollton, Ohio
RA5554	Harry Yonkura	Eastlake, Ohio
RA5555	Jeffrey M. Angello	Clifton, New Jersey
RA5556	Harry Tileston	Louisville, Kentucky
RA5557	Steve Innarelli	Rumford, Rhode Island
RA5558	Neal L. Snyder	Xenia, Ohio

RA5559	Harry L. Kaatz	Denver, Colorado
RA5560	Carol A. Kaatz	Denver, Colorado
RA5561	George R. Hohmann	Fairmont, West Virginia
RA5562	Bob Krotts	Kettering, Ohio
RA5563	Brian P. Beneteau	Monroe, Michigan
RA5564	Mary Craven	Hamilton, Ohio
RA5565	Elizabeth Korth	Cincinnati, Ohio
RA5566	William H. Pheatt	Berkley, Michigan
RA5567	Jerome Wysong	Kettering, Ohio
RA5568	Robert Clausen	East Brunswick, New Jersey
RA5569	Patrick L. Minton	Omaha, Nebraska
RA5570	Edward Grundy	Encino, California
RA5571	Les Polansky	Encino, California
RA5572	Peter Harcar	Union, New Jersey
RA5573	Matt Stachowicz	Sylvania, Ohio
RA5574	Janelle Strombeck	Lincoln, Nebraska
RA5575	James E. Schaeffer, Jr.	Vienna, Virginia
RA5576	Elaine Sterrett	College Park, Maryland
RA5577	Jeri Metcalf	Cockeyville, Maryland
RA5578	Carolyn Graham	Sisters, Oregon
RA5579	Robert Collins	Northbrook, Illinois
RA5580	Ron Wise	Eastlake, Ohio
RA5581	Barbara Wise	Eastlake, Ohio
RA5582	George Rogers	Rock Creek, West Virginia
RA5583	Sherrie Bradley	Union City, Ohio
RA5584	Rita Graft	Winchester, Indiana
RA5585	Jim Huffman	Beaver Creek, Ohio
RA5586	Eugene Wall	Rockville, Maryland
RA5587	Claire P. Wall	Rockville, Maryland
RA5588	Roger Plate	Muncie, Indiana
RA5589	Lisa DeCresce	Columbus, Ohio
RA5590	Ann DeCresce	Columbus, Ohio
RA5591	Lawrence DeCresce	Columbus, Ohio
RA5592	Phil Bond	New York New York
RA5593	Dan Kihlstedius	Minneapolis, Minnesota
RA5594	Don Combs	Saint Petersburg, Florida
RA5595	Mike Acowzi	Palm Harbor, Florida
RA5596	Bill Papanotti	Humble, Texas
RA5597	Jay Woodward	Wendel, Pennsylvania
RA5598	Michael Winter	Eastlake, Ohio
RA5599	Dave Miholer	Stow, Ohio
RA5600	Dennis Gerbetz	Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
RA5601	N. B. Coleman	Couer D'Alene, Idaho
RA5602	Jack Dempsey	Erie, Pennsylvania
RA5603	Marvin K. Couch	Sellersburg, Indiana
RA5604	Terry Akers	Kettering, Ohio
RA5605	Larry Williams	Huber Heights, Ohio
RA5606	Jan DeVries	Huber Heights, Ohio
RA5607	John Perazzo	Huber Heights, Ohio
RA5608	Ray Stimac	Lake Orion, Michigan
RA5609	Steve Belhorn	Pickerington, Ohio
RA5610	Mark Atkinson	Vienna, West Virginia

RA5611	David Shultz	Dayton, Ohio
RA5612	P. W. Becher	Columbus, Ohio
RA5613	Michael A. Crabb, Jr.	Memphis, Tennessee
RA5614	Herb Sobel	Arlington, Texas

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

L471	Joseph R. O'Connor	Oak Forrest, Illinois
L472	John Boland	Cedar Rapids, Iowa
L473	David P. Boland	Cedar Rapids, Iowa
L474	Tony Adkins	St. Paul, Minnesota
L475	Ginger Bryan	Gainsville, Florida
L476	Charles Dennis Diehl	Westland, Michigan
L477	William E. Wynn	Xenia, Ohio

CSNS HONOR ROLL

The following members have attained continuous CSNS membership for the number of years shown during the period October through December, 1988.

FORTY YEARS

L039	Arthur Faucon	Springfield, Illinois
L011	Glenn W. Gragg	Auburn, Illinois
L021	Charles R. Gonzales	Sarasota, Florida

THIRTY FIVE YEARS

L058	Louis R. Karp	Louisville, Kentucky
R0657	Robert H. Whiteleather	Elgin, Illinois

TWENTY FIVE YEARS

R1656	Marion John Konicki	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
L102	Rolland H. Willis	Greenfield, Indiana
R1670	George D. Bengé, Sr.	Topeka, Kansas

DECEASED MEMBERS

The Board and membership of the Society join in extending our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the following members, who passed away recently.

R0387	Glen B. Smedley	Colorado Springs, Colorado
R4367	Dean C. Johnson	Crystal, Minnesota
R5063	Jack D. Huggins, Sr.	Belleville, Illinois
L002	Richard S. Yeoman	Tucson, Arizona
R0800	P. H. (Jim) Frans	Holland, Michigan

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE AN ARTICLE TO THE CENTINEL ?

Contact the Editor

Kevin Foley

P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201

NEW TRADE TOKEN BOOK DOUBLES EXISTING TOKEN INFORMATION

(Iola, WI) — Most all collectors have some stashed away somewhere. They may be in the bottom of an old jewelry box, in a dusty attic, hidden away in a forgotten dresser drawer, or scattered among miscellaneous odds and ends.

We're talking about collectible tokens. Specifically those intriguing, appealing and unusual U. S. issues from the post-Civil War period.

Noted numismatist Russell Rulau first undertook categorizing the myriad of issues from 1866-1889 a number of years ago. The result was *U. S. TRADE TOKENS, 1866-1889*, first edition, published in 1983. The second edition of this ground-breaking book, published by Krause Publications, 700 East State Street, Iola, WI 54990, priced at \$17.95 plus \$2.00 shipping (U. S. addresses), is now available. The revised edition contains nearly twice as much valuable token data as its predecessor.

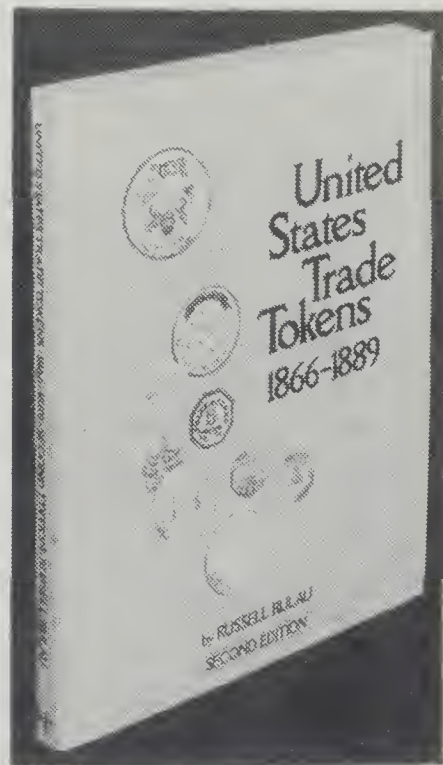
The new edition features totally updated pricing and expanded historical footnotes. Many tokens previously catalogued as "mavericks" have now been identified, and dates of issue for many tokens have been greatly narrowed.

The basic text covers all attributed tokens issued between 1866-1889, arranged alphabetically by state and city, and lists accurate market values in up to four grades. The book features an appendix focusing on merchant counterstamps of Canada, and special alphabetized listings of previously unidentified American counterstamps. Also included are listings for store cards, advertising checks, saloon and billiard tokens, trade tokens, work and railroad checks, picker chits, exposition and festival medalets and counterstamped coins.

Several important additions to this second edition include hundreds of maverick trade check attributions — including many of the billiard-related type — incorporated through the efforts of cooperating individuals and society contributors. Many heretofore "unknown" tokens are now slotted chronologically and geographically.

Special addenda listings combined with several Midwestern states record numerous reported, but unverified, attributions. Coverage of picker checks, primarily from Maryland and Delaware, is greatly expanded in this second edition. Higher quality illustrations, including hundreds of new ones, are interspersed throughout the catalog to aid the collector in identification.

Other volumes in the Rulau series of token books include: *Early American Tokens, 1700-1832*; *Hard Times Tokens, 1932-1844*; *U. S. Merchant Tokens, 1845-1860*; and *Tokens of the Gay Nineties, 1890-1900*. *Early 20th Century Tokens, 1901-1913*, will be available in the near future. Existing volumes can be purchased directly from the publisher.



NEW REFERENCE BOOK REDEFINES UNITED STATES OBSOLETE BANK NOTE FIELD

(Iola, WI) — “A work of this magnitude is simply unbelievable! It’s unprecedented in the history of the paper money hobby.” So stated Clifford Mishler, publisher of the numismatic books and periodicals division of Krause Publications. He was talking about the all-new, four volume Standard Catalog of United States Obsolete Bank Notes, 1782-1866. “It took us nearly 10 years to get to this point,” Mishler said. “But the wait was worth it. When United States obsolete bank note collectors get their hands on his set, they won’t believe the volume of information available.”

Authored by noted numismatic researcher and paper money authority James A. Haxby, the Standard Catalog of United States Obsolete Bank Notes, 1782-1866, covers all state bank issues of the turbulent wildcat and broken banking era of the late 1700s through the mid-1860s.

This comprehensive, four-volume, 8½ x 11 hardbound set is presented with full color covers. Each volume averages nearly 700 pages. It is available from Krause Publications, 700 East State Street, Iola, WI 54990, at a cost of \$195.00 (U.S. address), postpaid.

More than 3,100 note-issuing banks are chronicled here in detail, from the earliest issues of the 1780s up to and through the beginning of the National Bank period of the mid 1860s. The advent of legislation authorizing the issue of national currency as a vehicle for financing the conduct of the Civil War effectively taxed the issue of state banks out of existence.

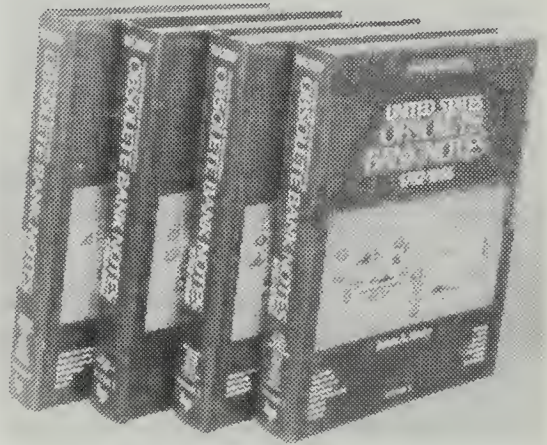
Notes of the state bank era are among the most varied and fascinating in U.S. history. This is a major reason obsolete notes command a fervent interest among collectors in the paper money hobby.

The Standard Catalog of United States Obsolete Bank Notes, 1782-1866 offers a vast amount of original research and photos of previously unpublished rare bank notes. Haxby’s introduction includes the most complete list of bank note imprints (the names of the actual engraver or printer) ever assembled. And more than 15,000 illustrations, many of which are pictured for the first time anywhere, occupy nearly 25% of the work’s total volume.

One of the biggest break-throughs comes in the area of pricing. “While many paper money books define a note’s value by a rarity scale number, you’ll find actual prices listed here,” said Mishler. “Jim Haxby and his group of specialist contributors evaluated notes based on condition, issuer, signatures and vignettes. All of these can contribute to the overall worth of a note. In some cases it may be the condition that weighs heavily. And in others it might be the signatures, vignettes or denomination. Haxby has taken each item into consideration, and emerged with values in up to three grades of preservation.”

Also included is the most authoritative treatment of counterfeit, raised, altered and spurious notes to date. For the altered notes, the author has documented the original unaltered note form.

Every state bank note believed to have been issued is listed. Where a surviving



example of the note has not been traced, it is assigned the designation SENC (Surviving Examples Not Confirmed). All varieties are incorporated, including changes in color of paper or ink, or any engraved changes in the plates.

More than 77,000 listings are included. The smallest issuer lists one note, and the largest listing (the State Bank of Ohio) covers 29 pages! The smallest state covered (Utah) has but one issuer; conversely, the largest (New York) has 664.

Each listing includes a catalog number, denomination, engraved portion of the date (and, where the date was to be completed by hand, the probable range of dating), the imprint (engraver), the color of overprints, and a detailed description of the design (when a note is not illustrated).

"We feel this comprehensive set will put the hobby on its ear," Mishler continued. "The vast volume of photos and valuations will totally redefine the current state of the United States obsolete bank note hobby."

SHOW CALENDAR

Show Chairmen are invited to send announcements of upcoming coin shows in the Central States region. The Show Calendar is intended to assist collectors and dealers in planning their show attendance. It is also designed to aid show sponsors in avoiding date conflicts. Show dates will be listed up to 24 months in advance and show sponsors are encouraged to submit dates for future shows through June of 1991. Please include the city where the show will be held, official name of the show, show dates and location, as well as the name, address and phone number of the show or bourse chairman. Send to: Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

CLEVELAND, OHIO — MARCH 3-5, 1989

Warrensville Heights Coin Club's Annual Coin Show. Holiday Inn Rockside, I-77 and Rockside Road. Bill Krizsan, P. O. Box 22163, Beachwood, Ohio 44122. (216) 248-4722

DAYTON, OHIO — MARCH 10-12, 1989

Greater Dayton 22nd Semi-Annual Coin Exposition. Dayton Convention and Exposition Center, 5th and Main Streets. Ron Crouch, 1921 Scotch Pine Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45432. (513) 426-4232

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA — MARCH 10-12, 1989

Northwest Coin Club's 55th Annual Coin Show. Hyatt-Regency Hotel, 1300 Nicollet Mall. Dick Grinolds, P. O. Box 18053, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418. (612) 331-8246

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS — MARCH 11-12, 1989

Central Illinois Numismatic Association's 40th Annual Coin Show. Sheraton Inn, 3090 Adlai Stevenson Drive. Steven Butler, 1712 South First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704. (217) 528-7634 evenings.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA — MARCH 12, 1989

Cedar Rapids Coin Club's 50th Anniversary Coin Show. Days Inn, 4701 1st Avenue, SE. Nevin Roberts, 3065 19th Avenue, Marion, Iowa 52302. (319) 377-6974

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA — MARCH 12, 1989

Lincoln Coin Club Show. Airport Holiday Inn, I-80 and Airport Interchange. Roger L. Winkelhake, 4420 South 46th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68516. (402) 489-5007

KENOSHA, WISCONSIN — MARCH 12, 1989

Kenosha Coin Club's Annual Coin Show. Holiday Inn, 5125 Sixth Avenue. Jerry Binsfield, P. O. Box 191, Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin 53158. (414) 654-6272

JOLIET, ILLINOIS — MARCH 12, 1989

Joliet Coin Club's 30th Annual Coin Show. Holiday Inn, I-80 and Larkin Avenue. Clayton J. Hagermann, 1414 Eldamain Road, Plano, Ill. 60545.

MADISON, WISCONSIN — MARCH 19, 1989

Madison Coin Club's Annual Coin Show. Sheraton Inn and Conference Center, 706 John Nolen Drive. Robert Kraft, 205 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin 53705. (608) 233-3519

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — MARCH 30 - APRIL 2, 1989

St. Louis Numismatic and Philatelic Exposition. Cervantes Convention Center. John Highfill, P. O. Box 142, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74013.

MARION, INDIANA — APRIL 2, 1989

Marion Coin Club's 31st Annual Coin Show. Sheraton Hotel, 504 East 4th Street. W. Ray Lockwood, P. O. Box 93, Marion, Indiana 46952.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 7-9, 1989

South Shore Coin Club's 26th Annual Coin Show. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn. Robert Krueger, 3058 South 13th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215. (414) 643-5775

OSKALOOSA, IOWA — APRIL 8-9, 1989

Oskaloosa Coin, Stamp and Sportscard Show. Penn Central Mall, 200 High Avenue West. Gail McKee, 103 High Avenue West, Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577. (515) 672-2763

WICHITA, KANSAS — APRIL 14-16, 1989

Kansas Numismatic Association Annual Convention and Coin Show. Ramada Hotel, 400 West Douglas. John H. McKean, P. O. Box 780651, Wichita, Kansas 67278.

CINCINNATI, OHIO — APRIL 14-16, 1989

Early American Coppers Convention. Drawbridge Inn and Convention Center, I-75 Exit 186, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky. Paul Padgett, 2200 Victory Parkway, Suite 501, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206. (513) 861-5506

OMAHA, NEBRASKA — MAY 13-14, 1989

Nebraska Numismatic Association's 34th Annual Convention and Coin Show. Holiday Inn, I-80 and 72nd Street. Steven C. Drake, 6411 North 77th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68134.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA — JUNE 9-11, 1989

Indiana State Numismatic Association's 31st Annual Convention and Coin Show. Indiana Convention Center. Dennis Linville, P. O. Box 418168, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241. (317) 241-5664

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — JULY 7-9, 1989

MidAmerica Coin Convention. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Streets. Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. (414) 282-2388

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — JULY 14-16, 1989

11th Annual N.O.I.S.E. Coin and Jewelry Show. Ramada Inn O'Hare. Joe Irmen, 5N105 Rt. 53, Itasca, Illinois 60143. (312) 250-0029

BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN — SEPTEMBER 8-10, 1989

Central States Numismatic Society's Fall Convention. Stouffer Hotel and Convention Center. Al Bobrofsky, P. O. Box 1157, Battle Creek, Michigan 49016. (616) 979-4433

CINCINNATI, OHIO — SEPTEMBER 15-17, 1989

Greater Cincinnati Numismatic Exposition. Drawbridge Inn and Convention Center, I-75 Exit 186, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky. Paul Padgett, 2200 Victory Parkway, Suite 501, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206. (513) 861-5506

LENEXA, KANSAS — SEPTEMBER 16-17, 1989

Johnson County Numismatic Society's 21st Annual Coin and Collectable Show. Lenexa Community Center, Pflumm Road and Santa Fe Trail Drive. Joe Scarlett, 12612 West 104th Terrace, Overland Park Kansas 66215.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 1, 1989

Numismatists of Wisconsin Annual Convention and Coin Show (hosted by the Milwaukee Numismatic Society). MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Streets. Leo Neidinger, 3385 Hidden Hills Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53008. (414) 783-7020

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY — OCTOBER 13-15, 1989

Holiday Inn Downtown, 120 West Broadway. KSNS Bourse Chairman, P. O. Box 43744, Louisville, Kentucky 40243.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA — OCTOBER 21-22, 1989

Omaha Coin Club's 30th Annual Coin Show. Holiday Inn Central, I-80 and 72nd Street. Ralph Reeves, 1027 South 90th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68114. (402) 393-4143

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — NOVEMBER 30, DECEMBER 1-3, 1989

National and World Paper Money Convention. Cervantes Convention Center, 801 Convention Plaza. Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201. (414) 282-2388

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — NOVEMBER 30, DECEMBER 1-3, 1989

National Silver Dollar Convention. Cervantes Convention Center, 801 Convention Plaza. Marlene Highfill, P. O. Box 142, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 73013. (918) 455-4985

MUNCIE, INDIANA — JANUARY 21, 1990

Muncie Coin and Stamp Club's 33rd Annual Coin Show. L. A. Pittinger Student Center, Ball State University, 2000 West University Avenue. Brad Pedigo, P. O. Box 1184, Muncie, Indiana 47305.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 5-8, 1990

Central States Numismatic Society's 51st Anniversary Convention. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Streets.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — JUNE 29-30 - JULY 1, 1990

MidAmerica Coin Convention. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Streets. Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. (414) 282-2388

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY — OCTOBER 18-20, 1990

Central State Numismatic Society's Fall Convention. Ramada Inn Hurstbourne and Bluegrass Convention Center, 9700 Bluegrass Parkway.

**Want to see your coin show listed free of charge in THE CENTINEL ?
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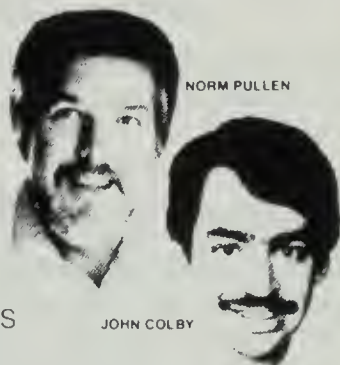
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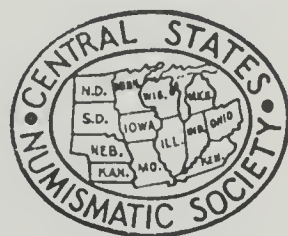
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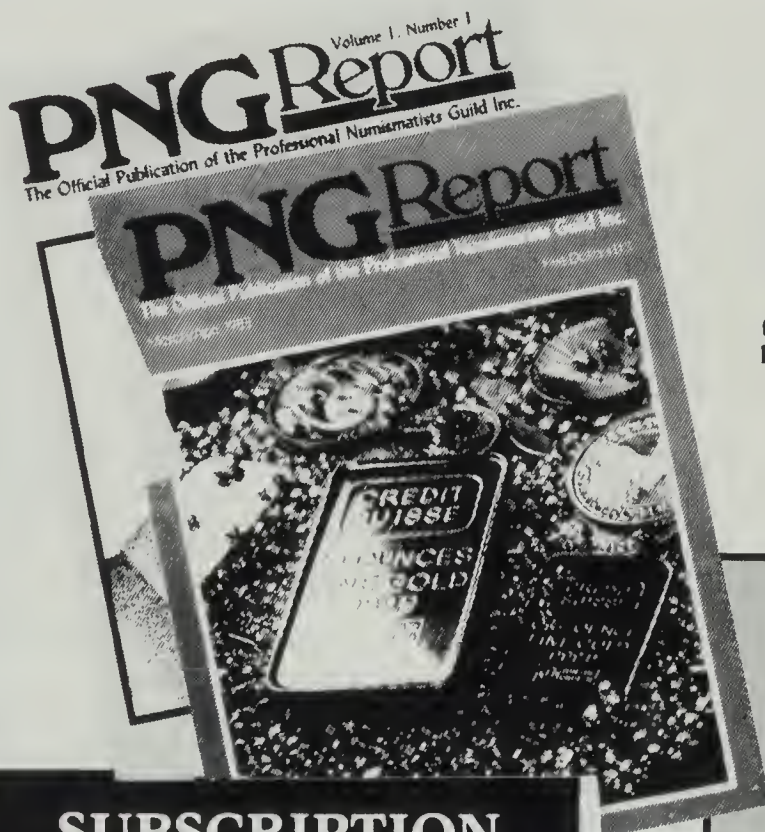
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The Million Dollar Haul — Hi-Ho Silver

by Robert R. Kutcher

On April 2, 1792 the Congress of the young Republic of the United States of America authorized the striking of our first silver dollar coin. The weight of this new coin was specified as 416 grains and it was to be composed of 0.8924 fine silver and 0.1076 pure copper. The first issues of this dollar coin appeared two years later in 1794, when only 1,758 silver dollar coins were minted. By the turn of the century, the total silver dollars issued were just a little over one million dollar coins. Contrast that million dollars for the first six years of minting with the 87,736,473 silver dollar coins that were struck in 1921 alone. 1921 was the last year of the Morgan type silver dollar and the first year of the Peace type dollar. Even the last year that regular issue silver dollars were minted, 1935, there were three and a half million silver dollars struck.

However, the real story about the recent proliferation of silver dollars into the coin collecting hobby began with a small group of men with diverse backgrounds, who in 1961 did not realize what the outcome of their bold, almost theatrical, venture would be. Barney Tomlinson, a dairy and ice cream man from Walla Walla, Washington, along with two other businessmen were awarded the medallion concession for the 1962 "Century 21" Seattle World's Fair. This group of men were coin collectors, who envisioned several spectacular ideas that would make their small concession a little more than a mere "Souvenir Medal" stand. They all scouted the world of coins for something to exhibit that would bring the big crowds to their concession stand. Their favorite idea was a massive display of coins, perhaps a million silver dollars in one big pile. But, the big hang-up for the group and this idea was the question of paying for the loss of about \$30,000.00 in interest on a million dollars that would be needed for the six months of the fair. And, too, the problem of housing, displaying, guarding and insuring such an exhibit for the duration of the fair. And this did not even approach the matter of the one million silver dollars themselves.

To try to solve the problem of housing and displaying such an exhibit, Mr. Tomlinson called upon the Behlen Manufacturing Company of Columbus, Nebraska. The Behlen Company was well known for the metal building that they had constructed to withstand an atomic bomb blast, and for their farm buildings, storage bins and corn cribs. The general idea of the exhibit found favor with Walter D. Behlen, who quickly estimated the cost of the entire project would be about \$50,000.00, which he thought he could perhaps justify on the basis of his products exposure at the fair. Walt discussed the idea of the exhibit with his staff and with several bankers in Nebraska and with the Federal Reserve in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He found that one million silver dollars could be delivered to the Behlen Company's care at the United States Mint, in exchange for the Company check for one million dollars. His staff was busy designing and prefabricating the building and the exhibit case while Walt found that the Hartford Insurance Company would insure the project for a nominal fee. After all, the coins were going to be perhaps the best protected coins in history.

The thirty tons of coins were to be transported from Philadelphia to Seattle in two Trailmobile Vans pulled by two red Chevrolet Tractors. The Chevrolet Motor Company also provided two red station wagons for the guards to ride in.

The Cadillac Company provided two red convertibles so that the program officials could make the trip with the silver dollars, too. All of these vehicles were loaned to the project with the idea that the advertising realized from the great venture would more than compensate for the cost involved.



"Fill-er-up" said Walt at the Philadelphia Mint.

On April 5, 1962, just one hundred-seventy years and three days after the authorization of the nations first silver dollar, 180 cubic feet of silver dollars were withdrawn from the mint's vaults in Philadelphia. These dollars were then placed in four steel plate boxes, two in each van, which were bolted to the floor just above the front and rear axle locations of the vans. Two hundred and fifty sacks, each containing one thousand silver dollars, were loaded into each of the four boxes for the 3,300 mile trip to Seattle. To facilitate the vewing of the coins inside of the vans, two holes about one foot square were cut in the side of each van and covered with heavy bullet proof plate glass. Small compartments were built behind these glass panels where several thousand loose dollars were placed to give spectators a good view of the actual load in the van. Mint officials had provided 200,000 new uncirculated silver dollars, minted in 1922, for use on the outside of any display to give it a bright new appearance. The balance of 800,000 coins were called by the mint officials, "Just run of the mill old dollars." Of course we now know that some of these "run of the mill old dollars" were to be quite valuable uncirculated dollars from San Francisco, New Orleans and Carson City.

Along the route the caravan would stop at designated spots each night so that the local people could see the money inside of the vans. Many thousands of people took advantage of this opportunity along the route to see an actual one million dollars. Of course the viewer did not realize that they were seeing only a few of the loose coins and that the bulk of the dollars were in sacks in the steel boxes with their lids welded shut. This fact was not publicized, and the location of the caravan and the one million silver dollars each night was made known to the news media just hours before its arrival so that the local people

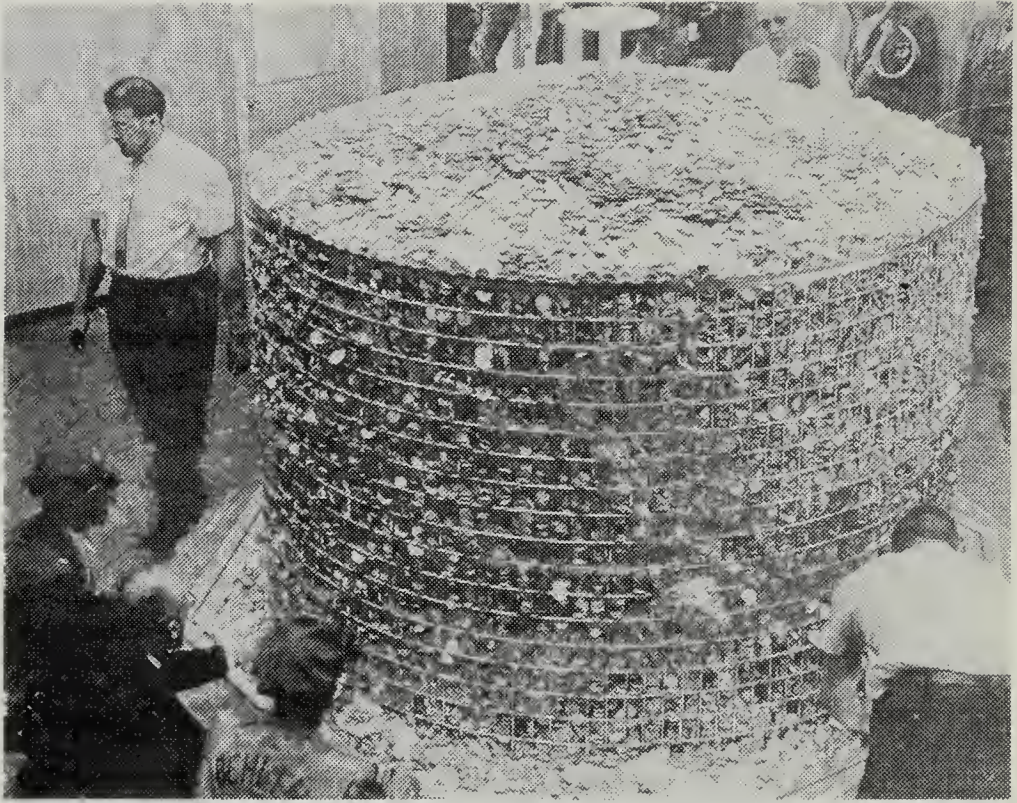
could come and see them. At some of the larger cities, where the local police would cooperate, the vans would stay longer than just over-night. To pay for the many expenses along the way, Walt had a small cache of several thousand silver dollars that were placed in an express company safe that had been chained to one of the steel boxes in one of the vans. Thus all of the expenses were paid for



To assure spectators along the route an authentic view of the treasurer, guards at the mint in Philadelphia filled compartments in the walls of each box with loose silver dollars.

with these silver dollars. However, when Mr. Behlen tried to pay the hotel bill in Philadelphia, the rare "cartwheels" were at first refused. The Treasury Officials with Walt reassured the hotel clerk, who had not seen a silver dollar before, that these silver coins were real money, much more real than any bank note, check or paper currency.

When the trucks with the one million silver dollars arrived in Seattle at the fair, the Behlen Company had already constructed a steel building to house the exhibit and the medal concession. Inside the building a two foot thick reinforced slab was constructed for the seven feet diameter, five feet high, "corn crib" which would hold the silver dollars. The display crib was fabricated of heavy steel wire mesh with two inch by three inch openings. This size of openings would permit the dollars to be seen very nicely, but it would also let some of the dollars slip through. This type of crib worked very well for corn on the cob, but would it hold silver dollars? To begin with, the crib was wrapped with heavy screen and surrounded with strong rope. Then the "old" dollars, in their sacks, were piled in the crib with about three inches of space left between the sacks and the inside of the crib. This three inch space was then filled with loose "new" 1922 uncirculated silver dollars. Some of these dollars were also poured out over the top when the crib was full. When the rope and screen were removed, only about two bushels of the coins fell out. These few were scooped up and carefully placed on the top of the pile. A previously constructed plate-glass and metal enclosure was then mounted around the pile of silver so that one could get a very close view of the coins.



Picking up the spilled dollars after the hail screen had been removed and just before the plate glass enclosure was set in place. Note the radar mechanism atop the pile.



Adding the last of the dollars to the display (from left): Bob Theilden, Dale McCollum, numismatist Barney Tomlinson, and Walt Behlen.

Security for this grand display was assured during the half year long fair by electrically charged tape on the glass enclosure and by a radar mechanism. Any break in the delicate tape during the day or any motion of any kind within the building at night would set off an alarm and bring law officers from the police station that was only a short hundred feet away in the armory building. Pinker-

- _____ F. Medals, Tokens, Objects and Decorations
_____ G. Miscellaneous (Exhibits Not Covered by Classes A through F)
_____ H. Junior — 17 years old or under.

Exhibits may be placed Thursday, April 20, 1989, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., and Friday, April 21, 1989, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and noon. **NO EXHIBITS MAY BE REMOVED BEFORE 2:00 p.m., Sunday, April 23, 1989.**

My exhibit will consist of (brief description): _____

I agree to abide by all the rules and committee decisions necessary to the conduct of the exhibit and by the decisions of the judges of the awards. I recognize and accept my personal liability regarding any loss or damages sustained either directly or indirectly in connection with my exhibit participation in the convention.

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I would like to reserve space for an exhibit of numismatic material of _____ cases for above convention. My exhibit is to be entered and judged in the class designated below by an X. (Note: No single exhibit may be entered in more than one class. No more than one entry per class. A separate application must be submitted for each exhibit.)

A limit of six cases totaling not more than 15 linear feet of table space per exhibit. Allstate cases (22" x 34") will be furnished; however, exhibitors may use their own cases provided they do not exceed the 15 foot linear limitation and are not more than five inches deep. All material, including titles, must be inside the exhibit cases.

CLASSIFICATIONS

_____ A. U.S. Coins

_____ B. Gold Coins

_____ C. Coins Prior to 1500 A.D.

_____ D. Foreign Coins After 1500 A.D.

ton Guards were also on duty during all hours that the display and medal concession was open. The six Pinkerton Guards were hired in Omaha, Nebraska, and five of them were U. S. Air Force Security Officers who were on temporary leave and had been permitted to hire out for this additional experience. These six guards accompanied the silver from Philadelphia to Seattle and some were with the exhibit for the duration of the fair.

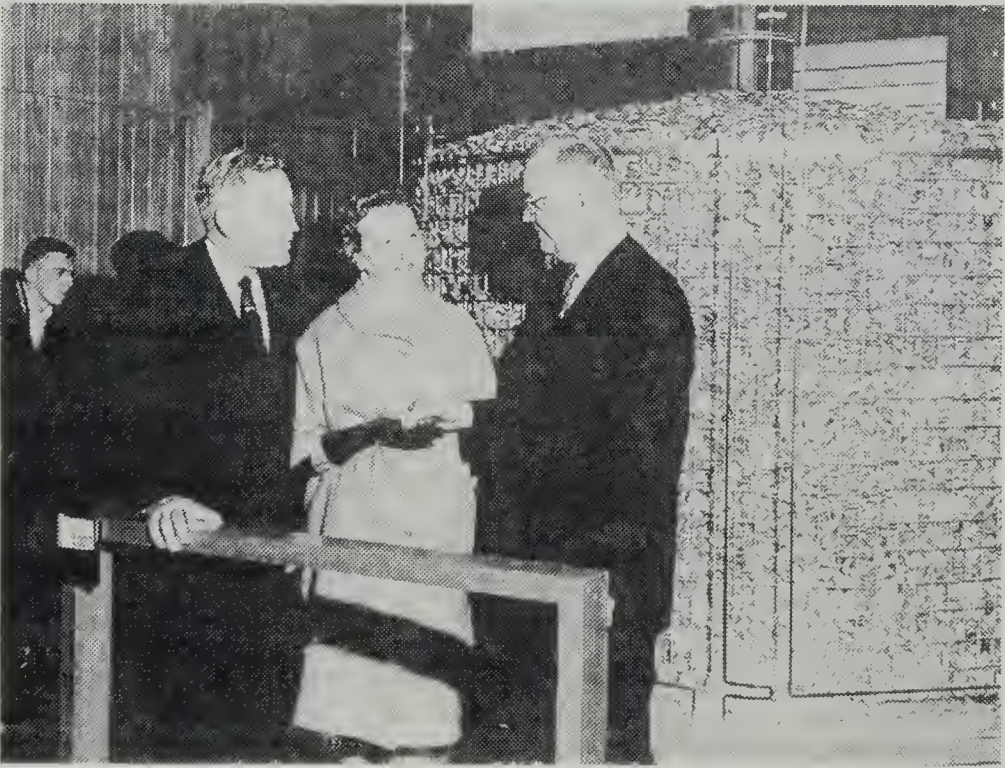


Nebraska's own movie great, Robert Taylor looking at the guard's revolver.

Besides the one million silver dollar exhibit, the Behlen building housed the sales counter and display cases for selling the many medallions and tokens about the fair itself. Orders were also taken here for the mint sealed bags of silver dollars that were in the exhibit, which would be delivered after the fair was over. The mint seals on the bags of dollars showed that they had been sacked and sealed from 1910 to 1914 and they were offered to anyone at \$1,500.00 for the \$1,000.00 sack. Something over 250 of these sacks of dollars were sold to coin collectors and speculators, who hoped for the possibility of finding some valuable old coins in their sacks. Quite a few of the people who picked up their bag of dollars after the fair, returned the next day to purchase another bag or two of the thousand coin bags. The remaining unsold silver dollars were sold back to the Federal Reserve Bank and thus returned to the mint in Philadelphia by a commercial securities firm.

The final balance sheet for the entire project showed that the Behlen Company had spent close to \$120,000.00 in all expenses and interest losses. But the profit of the \$500.00 per sack of their silver dollar sales came to around \$135,000.00, so the company realized a net profit of just over \$15,000.00. Not bad for a venture that was estimated by Walt to cost about \$50,000.00 which could be charged to product exposure. Also, the Behlen Company had the benefit of the public exposure to more than 4.25 million persons at the fair, who saw the Behlen building and the corn crib with the silver dollars. Add to this the advertising that was realized from the cross country trip with the coins. If that type of exposure were to be bought from an advertising agency, it would most likely take most of the one million dollars.

Ruby Mae Behlen, Walt's wife, said of this silver dollar venture, "I think it was the most foolish thing Walt has ever done." Foolish or farseeing, Walter Dietrich Behlen is the only man who has ever had one time one million silver dollars, and had them for half a year. Walter (P. T. Barnum) Behlen said of the venture, "The publicity that the Behlen Manufacturing Company received was its biggest coup, not only for the year, but probably of its entire history." Eva B. Adams, the director of the United States Mint at the time of the "Great Cartwheel Caper" says that she will never forget the events of the time that Mr. Behlen cleaned out one of her valuts. Walter felt that the "Million-Dollar Haul" was an attraction for both young and old, as an educational display that could be understood by all who saw it. In seeing it you could get the feel of the enormity of a million dollars, even in this day of billions. Walter even discovered that the Mint and Federal Reserve Bank officials were regular guys, when he received a letter that had after the signature, "Have Cartwheels, Will Travel."



Victoria Hruska is given a silver dollar by Walter Behlen as her husband, Nebraska's United States Senator Roman L. Hruska looks on.

This cartwheel venture also revealed to the numismatic world that the United States Treasury had in their vaults, rare and mint state silver dollars. And, too, these dollars could be purchased for a dollar each, in bags of one thousand. Thus, people started to show up at the Mint with their child's wagon or a wheelbarrow to cart off bags of the silver dollars. Soon there were lines of people each day at the Mint. In May of 1963, less than a year from the closing of the fair in Seattle and the return of the extra silver dollars, the Secretary of the Treasury asked the General Accounting Office auditors to join with the Treasury auditors in inspecting all of the future removals of silver dollars from the United States Treasury. This extreme measure was placed into effect immediately and was taken as the government officials had at last realized that the silver dollars in the vaults were in fact rare and had a higher than face value to coin collectors.



The trucks used for the Million Dollar Haul are parked in front of the State House in Olympia, Washington, before their final leg of the trip to Seattle.



Walt's gift to the one millionth visitor to the exhibit, a school girl from Los Angeles, is one hundred silver dollars.

In March of 1964, the Secretary of the Treasury suspended all of the exchanges of silver dollars for silver certificates, which had been allowed by law in some instances. Then on April 15, 1964, the internal audit staff of the Treasurer of the United States, together with representatives of the cash division, began an examination of the silver dollars in the Treasury. This examination was also under the observation of the auditors of the General Accounting Office. The first two lots

inspected contained one hundred and eighty-six and two hundred and forty-four bags each. All of these bags were labeled "Uncirculated Carson City Silver Dollars," and each contained one thousand coins. Each bag also had a joint seal of the cash division and the internal audit staff, and had been sealed in 1955, 1956 or 1958. The examination of these four hundred and thirty bags revealed that there were 8,439 circulated Peace type dollars, 2,712 circulated Morgan type dollars and 1,000 1884-O and 1,000 1885-O uncirculated dollars in these bags along with 416,849 uncirculated Carson City dollars.

As these first sealed bags were found to be contaminated, it was decided to expand the examination to 2,422 bags that were sealed in 1935 and tagged as uncirculated Carson City Dollars. Two hundred and fifty-nine bags were selected at random from seven vault compartments. The results of this examination revealed that this group was virtually as tagged but for one bag. That one bag contained uncirculated 1884 dollars minted in New Orleans rather than Carson City. Since the results of this examination of over 10 percent of the lot of 2,422 bags indicated that the tags were on the whole, correct, this very slow and costly examination of each individual coin was discontinued.

The final analysis of the "Standard Silver Dollars" held by the United States Government showed that on September 21, 1964, the Treasury had on hand 2,947,899 silver dollar coins. These dollars were broken down to 2,837,849 uncirculated Carson City coins, and 20,000 uncirculated coins from Philadelphia, New Orleans and San Francisco. Also there were 90,050 mixed circulated dollars from all four of the mints. The U. S. Secret Service was at this time asked to make an exhaustive investigation to ascertain the reason that some of the bags of dollars contained coins bearing dates and mint marks that differed from the tags on the sealed sacks. However, the findings were not made public.



The Million Dollar Haul stops for gas and food at "Little American" in Wyoming

Even though the exchange of silver certificates was halted in March of 1964, the Treasury would give the equivalent value of the silver dollar in silver granules for your silver certificate. Until June 24, 1968, you could buy silver bars, made from the reclaimed silver coins that had been called in. Of course you needed to have the right number of silver certificates to buy the bar with. That is why there was a market for silver certificates above face value.

On December 6, 1971 the U. S. Treasury in Washington transferred the 2.9 million silver dollars to the General Service Administration Officials in West Point, New York, who accepted the trusteeship of the coins. Then early in 1972, The General Service Administration held what they billed as: "The Great Silver

Sale of Uncirculated Carson City Silver Dollars.” The sale was limited to citizens of the United States and only the 1882, 1883 and 1884 uncirculated Carson City dollars were offered. The sales pitch was for collectors items minted from the famous Comstock Lode, and the last of the 90% silver dollars. The excellent investment quality and the gift idea were also mentioned and a memento of our American heritage.

The “Sale” was really more of a mail bid auction rather than a straight sale. A person could only “bid” on one coin of each of the three dates and the minimum acceptable bid was \$30.00 for each coin wanted. However, if fewer bids were received for any of the dates than in the total inventory of dollars, the coins would be sold for the minimum of \$30.00 each, and any overage sent in would be refunded. But, if more bids were made than the total inventory, the coins would go to the highest bidders in descending order. All bids had to be sent to Fort Mason in San Francisco, California, and had to be received before January 31, 1973. The remaining silver dollars, both circulated and uncirculated, from all of the mints were sold in other sales at fixed prices. This influx of almost three million coins into the hands of collectors and speculators and the great rise in the price of silver have resulted in the great silver dollar mania of today.



Housed in a Behlen Co. stressed-skin building, Behlen's Million Silver Dollar Display was easily the most popular exhibit at the 1962 Seattle World's Fair. More than 40,000 visitors per day viewed the display.

Don't forget to make your hotel reservations for the Central States Numismatic Society's 50th Anniversary Convention in Overland Park, Kansas, April 20-23, 1989. A reservaton form is in this issue of *The Centinel*.

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A STORY OF A HERO

PFC FRANK J. SEMPLE

by Charles J. Ricard



PFC Frank J. Semple

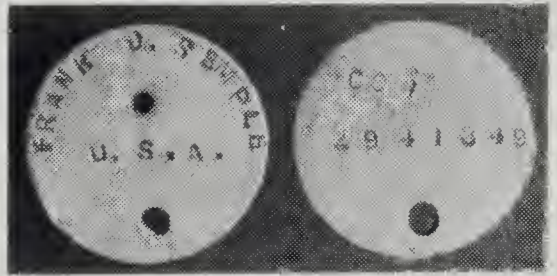
enlisting were being drafted, one by one, into the Army.

After being sworn in, he went home to tell his folks Theodore and Charlotte Semple that he was now in the U. S. Army. "We told Frank to fight for his country and to fear no bullets." Their son would be heading for Fort Dix, New Jersey to get his training as a runner with the 78th (Lightning) Division. He told them not to worry, as he would probably see little action if and when he would be sent to France.

The year 1988 marks the seventieth anniversary of signing of the Armistice which lead to the end of World War I. We recall the deeds of such great heroes as Sergeant Alvin York, but there were many others who performed gallantly in action, and this a story of one of them.

When a collector obtains an inscribed or numbered United States military decoration, many thoughts come to mind. What act of heroism was performed? What was his branch of service and his rank? Was the medal awarded posthumously or did the recipient survive to tell his own story?

On April 28, 1918, at age 29, our hero was drafted into the United States Army. The rest of his pals at the shoe factory and the boxing club were talking about the war with the "Huns," and those not



PFC Semple's "Dog Tags"



U. S. Army Fort Dix Center 1917-1975

On May 20, 1918, Private Frank J. Semple embarked on a troop ship with his outfit as part of the Allied Expeditionary Forces under the command of General John J. Pershing. They arrived at Southhampton, England, on June 4, 1918, and

were put on a train to the English coast. On June 9th they crossed the English Channel to Calais, France.

Private Semple was assigned to the Third Battalion, Company I, of the 310th Infantry. His Battalion billeted at Bayenghem, and it was near here that the 310th Infantry suffered its first casualty, when Corporal Henry Smith was killed in the front line trenches.

The Third Battalion was moved by rail to Thieulaye in the St. Pol area, on the Arras front. The trip took forty-three hours and the close confinement in the cars became known as "Hommes 40 — Chaveaux 8", or the forty and eight. They now occupied the American Sector in the Department of Haute-Marne at Ainville. The troops were back on American Rations of "hardtack" and were marching by night and concealment by day, and yes it rained and rained. They moved to a woods east of Dombrot-sur-Vair and on to Morelmaison as part of the St. Mihiel Offensive.

"Cold food, an empty stomach, and ceaseless rain spelled discomfort for all, a night march sounded promising; at least we could keep warm." As they pushed on in the night, the air changed and became stale and dead; this was No Man's Land. Not one living tree or plant or flower existed.

The troops moved toward Thiaucourt. The Third Battalion, with Captain Courtney C. Crozier commanding, was being held in reserve.

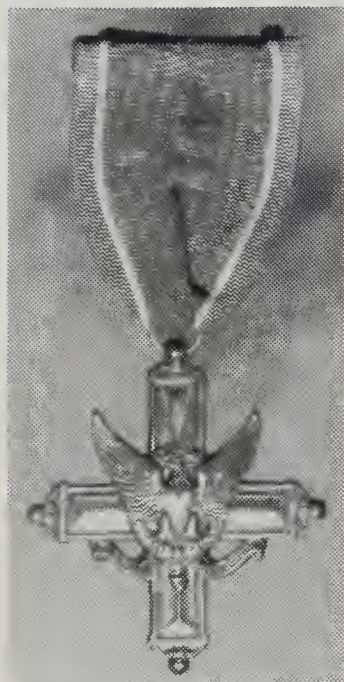
On September 21, 118, the Third Battalion was thrown into action one hundred yards in advance of the front at Bois de la Montagne. After heavy fighting the First Battalion moved to relieve the Third. The area was called the Limey Sector. The mustard gas fumes daily hung about the streets of Thiaucourt.

The 310th Infantry began the march from Thiaucourt to the Argonne Forrest. The men thought they were going back to rest and refit. They felt the lack of three meals a day, and a bath was an unknown luxury. None deemed that the Argonne, seemingly so far distant, was the ultimate destination. The area around Mandres had been transformed into a desolate waste cut by intricate trench systems, and choked with rusted barb wire entanglements. Buildings were reduced to shapeless piles of masonry, and the trees had been so cut with shell fire that nothing remained but charred stumps rising above the lifeless fields.

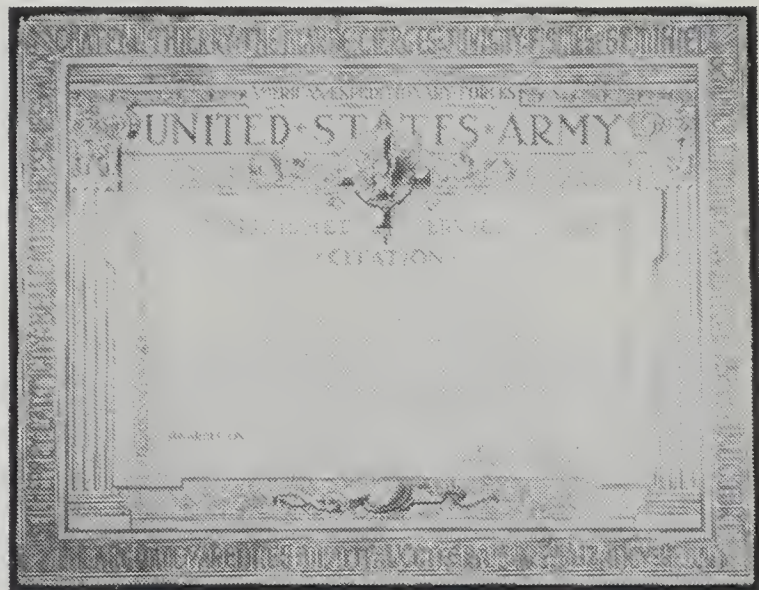
The entire 78th Division assembled at the Bois de la Reine. For the first time in months the rain stopped, but orders were to march, so a supper of bully-beef and hard bread were consumed on the march. The 310th Infantry stopped to rest in the fields surrounding Nicey, and the next day they were at the St. Juvin-Grandpre Road just south of the Bois des Loges. The country was devoid of cover. The attack began with the Third Battalion crossing open fields in short rushes, and maintaining a magnificent formation in spite of the increasing enemy fire. They advanced under continuous long range machine gun fire, losing men killed and wounded every few yards. Automatically, the men spread out to fill the gaps left by their comrades who fell. On higher ground, the enemy artillery increased to almost a barrage. For minutes at a time, the front lines were hidden by the smoke of the bursting shells, falling directly among the men. The first advance on the Bois des Loges defies description of the countless feats of heroism performed. The Third Battalion, now under Captain Ray, held out through the night and kept on the attack.

On November 1, 1918, Company I of the 310th Infantry was being held back by the enemy. Private Frank J. Semple, a Battalion Runner during the advance of his battalion through the Bois des Loges, with great gallantry and disregard

of personal danger carried a message from Battalion Headquarters to a detachment on the extreme left flank after two runners immediately preceding him had been killed endeavoring to deliver the same message. His path lay over ground continually swept by enemy machine guns and the preceding runners had been killed in his sight. His success in delivering this important message materially aided the Battalion Commander in connecting up the units of his command and contributed largely to the final success of the operations. Private Semple could not have been censured for any failure to perform his mission. He was presented with the Distinguished Service Cross, January 19, 1919, by the 78 Division Commander, Major General James H. McRae, at Vic de Chassenay, France along with his battlefield citation signed by General John J. Pershing.



*Distinguished
Service Cross*
Numbered 1725



Battlefield Citation Distinguished Service Cross

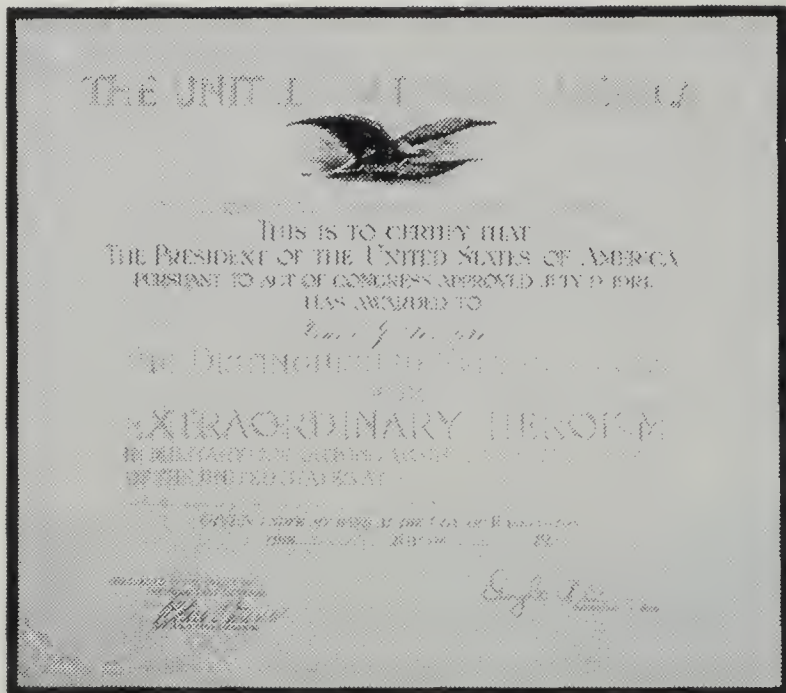
When the French Command heard of this gallant action, they proceeded to award Private Semple their highest honor, the Medaille Militaire, which was awarded to only a handful of the entire American Expeditionary Forces.

Private Semple was later awarded the French Croix de Guerre with a Palm for gallantry in action.

After the signing of the Armistice, now Private First Class and Battalion Bugler Frank J. Semple was sent home on board the ship Panama and he arrived in the United States on May 23, 1919. He was to receive more medals. New York State awarded him their Conspicuous Service Cross and Citation.

The Victory Medal with the Defense Sector and Muse Argonne bars were awarded, along with the Rochester, New York, Citizens Medal and the V. F. W. 40 and 8 medal.

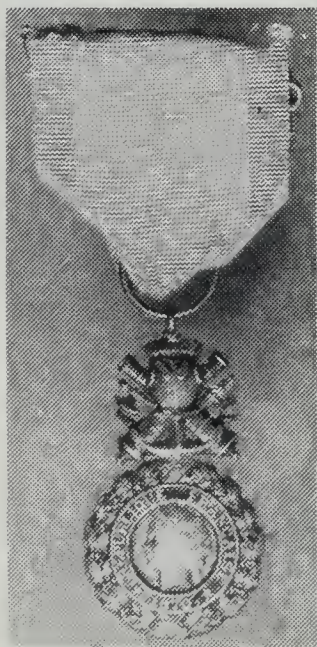
As with most heroes, they do not like to relate their experiences. Private Semple wrote a letter to his folks on the events leading to his award of the Distinguished Service Cross. He stated, "I was a runner and had to carry messages to all the Company captains and to the major, no matter how much Fritz



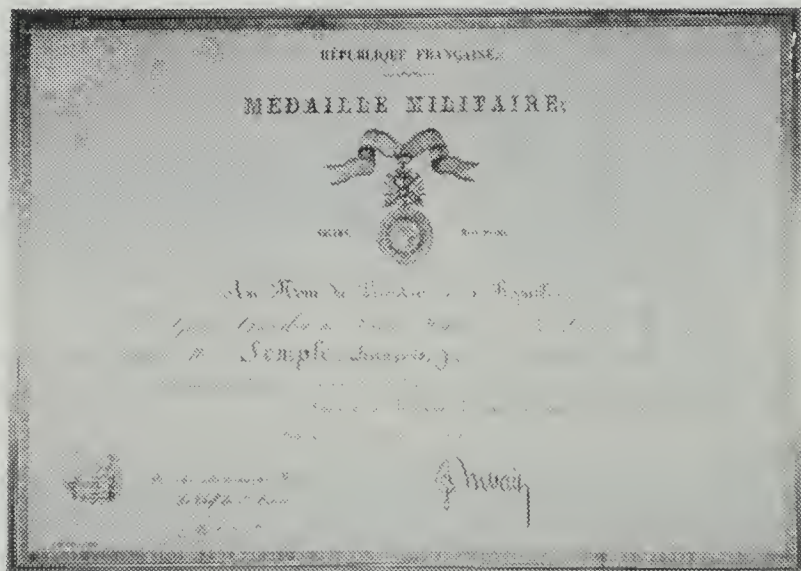
*Citation for the Distinguished Service Cross
Issued by the President of the United States
December 12, 1925*



PFC Frank J. Semple



Medaille Militaire



Medaille Militaire Citation

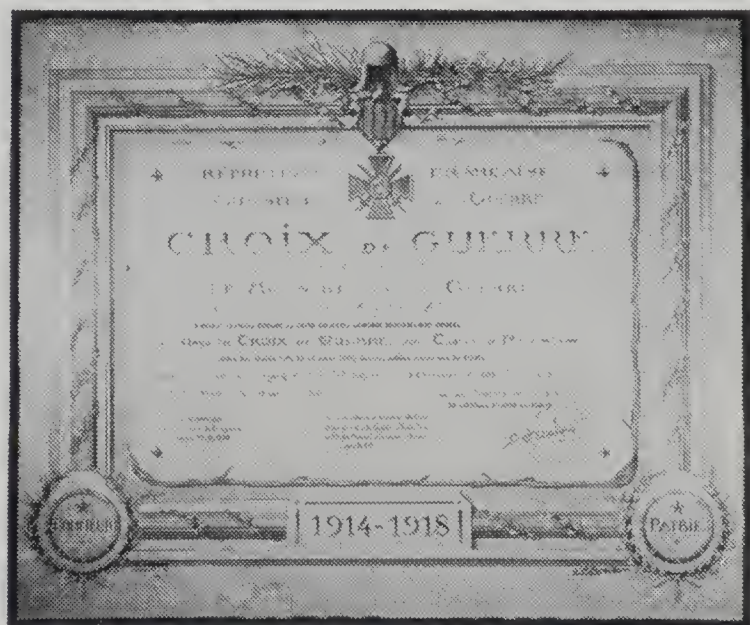
shelled me. One day (November 1, 1918) we needed more men and Fritz was just raining shells and “Mac” bullets. The captain called me and said, “Semple take this message to the major a mile back.” I said to myself, “Good-by, Frank,” since two others had been lost on the same job. But I was glad to go and started. I knew Fritz was watching me because he gave me hell. He started with machine gun fire; since they always want to get a runner, and he popped a gas shell in front of me. I couldn’t get my gas mask on, so I was gassed; but I delivered my message through all right, and then went to a first aid station for a week. I was all right then, but the doctor said stay another week as I was short-winded from the gas. One morning I went into the yard and ran back to my Company. Although the doctor gave me the devil, I was allowed to stay with my Company.



*Croix de Guerre with Palm Battlefield Citation
Signed by Marshal Petain*



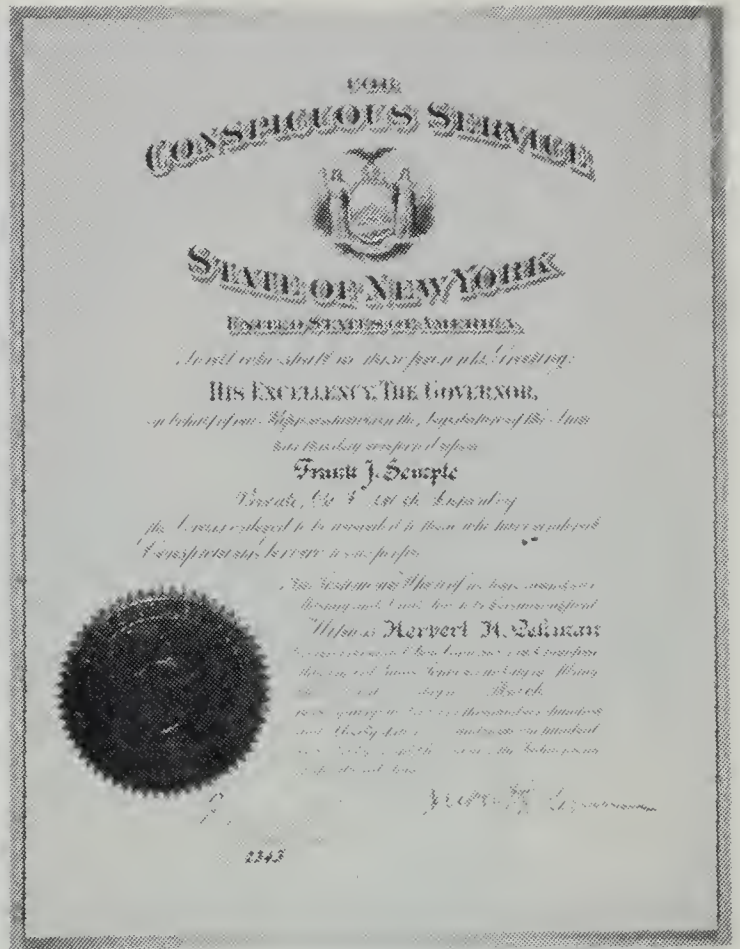
*Croix de Guerre
with Palm*



Croix de Guerre Citation



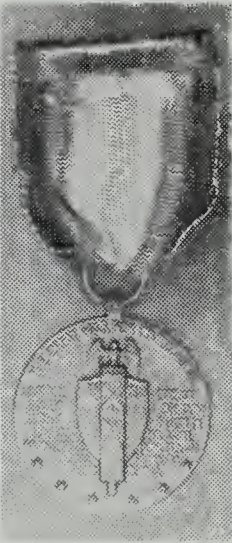
New York State Service Cross



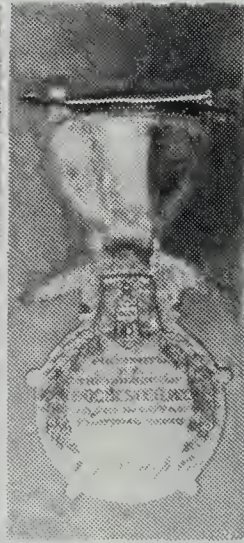
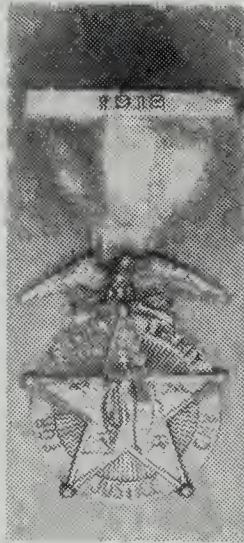
New York State Service Cross Citation



Victory Medal



Citizens Medal
Rochester, New York



V. F. W.
40 & 8 Medal

I have had some hair-raising experiences carrying messages through the fire, but when my mates fell left and right around me I just prayed. I prayed every day, and when I had a dangerous task like the one which I was cited, I made the sign of the Cross and had God's name on my lips."

On November 1, 1918, thirty eight men were killed in the assault.

PFC Frank J. Semple was a member of the Army and Navy Legion of Valor,

and once served as National Adjutant. In later life he entertained World War II troops with his German Band at the Veterans Hospitals, doing impersonations of Adolph Hitler.

He is no longer with us, but with his comrades of the 78th. We must not forget the unsung heroes who gave their all, "For in Flanders Field the poppies grow, amid the crosses, row on row."



The Grave of PFC Frank J. Semple

How many new members have you signed up for CSNS so far this year ?

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Numismatic Travels

by Kevin Foley

In late November the airline industry made some significant changes in fare structures. In essence, the totally unrestricted fares that last minute business travelers typically have to use were raised substantially, while a number of short notice advance purchase discount fares were eliminated entirely and the advance purchase requirements for deeply discounted tickets requiring a stay over Saturday night were lengthened. The net result will likely be that a lower percentage of travelers in the future will be able to avail themselves of discounted tickets than has been the case in the past.

Airline traffic has been unusually healthy over the past year and Continental Airlines, which had acted as a spoiler when its competitors attempted to raise fares in the past, was the initiator of the new round of fare hikes.

The bottom line for individual travelers is that while deeply discounted fares will continue to be available, it will take more advance planning to get them and the discount will be off a generally higher coach fare.

Many who took advantage of the airlines triple mileage promotions during 1988 will likely seek to insulate themselves from the effect of the fare increases by utilizing frequent flyer awards. One recent change in frequent flyer programs, however, has been to institute capacity controls restricting the number of seats available for passage on the free ticket category. While this is largely aimed at such popular vacation destinations as Hawaii and Europe, the award capacity controls could also be a factor if an unusually large number of passengers attempt to redeem awards to escape higher fares.

Some programs, United's in particular, will offer participants the option of leaving past mileage under the old program rules, which did not have capacity controls, or placing it under the new rules, which offer some reduced mileage redemption levels for awards, but also include capacity controls. Program participants should think twice before being seduced by the reduced mileage levels necessary to earn selected awards in United's new program, if only to avoid the capacity controls newly introduced in the United award structure.

— Kevin Foley

Legal Tender

by Bill Mross

Bill Mross, a practicing attorney in Racine, Wisconsin, will respond to numismatically related legal questions in each issue of *The Centinel*. This feature is based on Wisconsin law, which may yield different results than would be applicable in other jurisdictions. If you have a question you'd like to see answered in the pages of *The Centinel*, write to Bill Mross, Central States Numismatic Society, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Dear Legal Tender: I have a coin collection which cost just over \$15,000 as I accumulated little by little over the years. A prominent dealer recently offered me \$55,000 for it. My two grandsons will be entering college this Fall and I'd like to help them with their education by giving them the collection. My ques-

tion is whether I'd be better off selling it myself and giving them each an equal share of the money, or if I should give them the collection and let them sell it themselves? — L. T., Madison, Indiana

Dear L. T.: From the standpoint of avoiding federal taxes you'd be better off to give the collection to your grandsons. Should you sell the collection yourself you'd be liable for a tax on your gain of \$40,000 over and above your original cost. Should you simply give the collection to your grandsons the appreciation you've enjoyed would escape income taxation quite legitimately. Your grandsons would as the new owners have a "cost basis" for income tax purposes that would be equal to the value of the coins on the date of your gift.

When they later sold the coins they would themselves then be liable for income taxation on any gain they realized over and above the value of the coins on the date they acquired ownership. To document the value of the coins as of the date of the gift a professional appraisal would be necessary. I would also recommend that a deed of gift be prepared specifically detailing what property is being conveyed. These two precautions should insulate your grandchildren from adverse tax consequences when they do sell the items should their tax returns be audited and they not be able to properly document their actual cost basis at the time you made the gift.

Should you simply make the gift informally, without any documentation and appraisal of value, your grandchildren could possibly be held liable for federal income taxation of the difference between the face value of the collection and the price realized. This would result in a higher tax being imposed than if you sold the collection yourself at this time.

Another consideration in addition to federal income tax is the federal gift tax. Although for many years a gift tax was due from the donor on any gift of \$3,000 or higher to any one individual, recent changes in tax law have increased this exemption to \$10,000 per year. By holding the value of the coins given to each grandson in any one year to less than the \$10,000 exemption you would be able to avoid paying any gift tax at all. Since the expenses for their education would be incurred over a period of several years, it might be prudent to keep your gifts under the \$10,000 limit anyway. This might remove any temptation the beneficiaries of your generosity would have to utilize the money involved for a less worthy purpose than you have in mind.

Your own state may also have a gift tax and the exemption level established where you live may or may not conform to that in the federal law, so you should still consult an attorney in your own state to determine if there are additional tax considerations for you there.

The bottom line is that you should be sure to document your gift and the value of its components in order to achieve your objective of having the highest possible amount of it go for the purpose you intend at such time as your grandchildren do dispose of it for their education.

'Til next time — *Bill Mross, Legal Tender*

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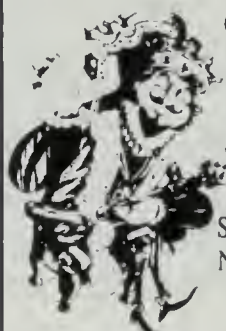
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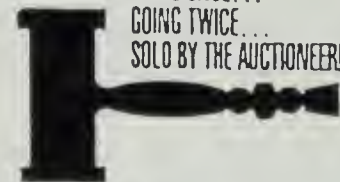
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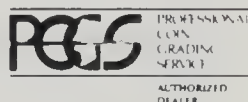
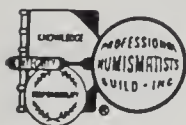
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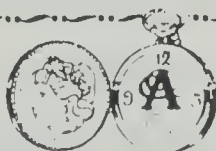
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